



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 9, 2008

H.R. 523 **Douglas County, Washington, PUD Conveyance Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on May 7, 2008*

H.R. 523 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey, at fair market value, 622 acres of federal land to the Douglas County Public Utility District No. 1 (PUD). Any administrative costs of the conveyance would be borne by the PUD. CBO estimates that any net budgetary impact from enacting this legislation would be negligible.

Four percent of the proceeds of the conveyance, classified as offsetting receipts, would be transferred to the state of Washington for education expenses or to build public infrastructure. The remaining receipts would be deposited into the Federal Land Deposit Account, which was created by the Federal Land Transaction Facilities Act. Those receipts would be available, without further appropriation, to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to purchase land inholdings (parcels of land that are entirely surrounded by federally owned land).

The sale of federal land could result in forgone offsetting receipts if, under current law, those lands would generate income from activities such as mineral leasing and mining. According to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), that land currently generates no significant receipts and BLM does not anticipate any receipts from it over the next 10 years.

H.R. 523 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Enacting this act would benefit the PUD, and any costs that it might incur in association with the conveyance of land would be incurred voluntarily.

On October 18, 2007, CBO published a cost estimate for H.R. 523, the Douglas County, Washington, PUD Conveyance Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on October 10, 2007. The versions of the legislation are identical, as are the estimated costs.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Tyler Kruzich. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.